



Serial No.: 09/728153

① Lawrence
#61a
PATENT
3-31-04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nomura, et al.

Examiner: Latoya I. Cross

Serial No.: 09/728153

Group Art Unit: 1743

Filed: December 2, 2000

Docket No.: 01875.0005-US-01
Previously QSTR-01.0

Title: SURFACE-MODIFIED WICK FOR DIAGNOSTIC TEST STRIP

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 18, 2004.

Hallie A. Finucane
Name

Hallie A. Finucane
Signature

REPLY SUBMITTED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

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MAR 24 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Reply is submitted in response to an Office Action mailed December 19, 2002. Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2. Remarks begin on page 6, following the listing of claims. Further examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.